

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 792

By Cooper B

A RESOLUTION to commend Mr. Jackie D. "Pepper" Petersen for extraordinary service as a legislative intern for Representative Barbara Cooper.

WHEREAS, each legislative session this body is pleased to recognize certain persons who have committed themselves, through their adroit service, to the betterment of the legislative process; and

WHEREAS, Jackie D. "Pepper" Petersen is one such individual who has distinguished himself in his role as a legislative intern for Representative Barbara Cooper; Pepper's work resulted in innumerable benefits for the legislator he assisted and the General Assembly as a whole; and

WHEREAS, Jackie Petersen is a 1996 honors graduate of Covington High School, where he demonstrated his agility and athletic ability as a four-year football and soccer player for the Covington Chargers and as a team captain for both teams; during the 1995-96 season, as the Football Special Teams Player of the Year, Pepper recorded the most tackles for the season and broke the school record for most tackles in a game, with 21 in the last game against Ripley High School. He also broke the school record for the most saves as a goalkeeper in soccer, averaging 35 saves a game, during the 1995-96 season as well; and

WHEREAS, Pepper expressed his melodious vocal talent as a four-year member of the Covington High School Chorus, the Covington High School Show Choir, and as a Covington High School Choir section leader, as a participant in, and star of, numerous performances at Covington High School, as a four-time All-West Tennessee Honor Choir Member, and as a member of the 1996 All-State Honor Choir; and

WHEREAS, along with being voted as having the “Most School Spirit” by his fellow classmates, during his high school tenure, Pepper was a member of the FFA, where he was the 1996 FFA District Champion for extemporaneous speaking, the Covington High School #1 Club, STARS, and the Spanish Honor Society; and

WHEREAS, before the age of 18, Pepper was an accomplished world traveler and business owner, having participated in a pilgrimage to Jerusalem in 1996; he is also a 1996 graduate of the ACSA (American Cotton Shippers Association) Cotton Institute at Rhodes College in Memphis; and

WHEREAS, Jackie Petersen began his undergraduate education in 1997 upon enrollment at Freed-Hardeman University, where he was a member of the Freed-Hardeman Chorus, until he transferred to the University of Memphis in the summer of 1997; and

WHEREAS, a student at the University of Memphis, where he is highly admired by his peers, Pepper has achieved academic success, maintaining an outstanding grade point average of 3.9, while triple-majoring in International Business, International Relations, and Political Science, and participating in numerous extracurricular activities; and

WHEREAS, Jackie is the Treasurer and founding member of the “Friends of Fort Pillow,” the President and founding member of the Citizens for the Preservation of Historic Tennessee, and the Speaker and founding member of the Tennessee Collegiate General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, throughout the 2000 legislative session, Jackie has surpassed all criteria with regard to the attributes of a devoted and conscientious legislative intern, exemplified by his being voted by his fellow interns as “Mr. Intern” for the Intern Class of 2000; and

WHEREAS, while serving as an intern, Jackie contributed his astute services and talents wholeheartedly and was instrumental in drafting legislation, personally assisting the legislators he served, and addressing constituent concerns; and

WHEREAS, eager to familiarize himself with the characteristics and complexity of Tennessee state government and to assist in his studies, Jackie brought his ability and expertise to Capitol Hill for the 2000 session of the One Hundred First General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, Jackie Petersen has performed his many duties with extraordinary insight and decorum; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby commend Jackie D. "Pepper" Petersen for outstanding service as a legislative intern for Representative Barbara Cooper, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.